

Donovanosis

Am I at risk?

- I have had UNSAFE sex (without a condom, condom not used properly, condom fell off)
- I have a new partner or many partners
- I have discharge, pain or sores in private parts
- I was named as a contact of someone else with an STI
- I can't remember if I had UNSAFE sex (eg if I was drunk)
- my partner or I have ever injected drugs
- I have had contact with someone else's blood (eg getting a tattoo, fighting).

If you said **YES** even once,
or are thinking of having a baby...

Get an STI CHECK!

Condoms Stop STIs from Spreading



- Check date and seal of the packet – old condoms break



- Open the packet carefully (don't use teeth)



- Roll on when the penis is hard



- Pinch the tip so air doesn't get trapped as you roll down



- Put on some water-based lubricant

- Hold the condom on your penis when you pull out, so semen (cum) doesn't spill out

- Throw the condom in the bin – not down the toilet.

Where to get help

See your local health clinic or doctor

Call the **Sexual Health Helpline**

08 9227 6178 (metro)

1800 198 205 (country – free call)

For more information on STIs and HIV,
visit www.population.health.wa.gov.au

Clinic or surgery stamp here:



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Duality by Deborah Bonar

**Our Communities
Our Responsibility**

What is an STI?

Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) are caused by germs getting inside you when you have sex with someone who has the infection.

Anyone who has vaginal, anal (bum) or oral (mouth) sex without a condom can get an STI.

You can get private help and treatment if you have an STI.

Donovanosis

Donovanosis is an STI that causes one or more sores on or around the sex parts. The sore doesn't hurt and starts off small. If it isn't treated, it slowly gets bigger, red and smelly.

Donovanosis can be damaging your body and you may not know it.

The donovanosis sore eats away at healthy skin. If the sore gets really big it can make you feel weak and sick. There is medicine that can cure donovanosis.

You can't tell if you or another person has donovanosis just by looking.



What if I have it?

Donovanosis is tested for by swabbing (wiping) the sore.

The earlier you find an STI, the easier it is to treat, and less damage is done to your body.

If you have donovanosis, you will get some pills (antibiotics). You need to take the pills each week for four weeks.

Then get the clinic staff to check the sores are all gone. If you have had donovanosis for a long time it may take longer to fix it up completely.

People you've had sex with

If you have been treated for an STI, it is important to let your sex partner(s) know.

If you want, the clinic can do it for you without telling anyone your name

If you or your sex partners are not treated, you might get that STI again!

What if I don't get treated?

Donovanosis germs keep damaging your body until you get treated.

The sore will get bigger and bigger, and start to smell. If it is left for a long while, the sore will eat away the skin of the sex parts and leave a scar after it is healed up. It will also cause damage inside your body.

If you have a sore, you are more likely to catch other STIs and HIV, the virus (germ) that causes HIV/AIDS.

How do I stop donovanosis?

- Have an STI check if you are at risk (**Am I at risk?** See other side).
- Safe Sex – use condoms and lube **every time** you have sex. Condoms will help protect you from donovanosis if the condom stops skin-to-skin contact with any sores. But if the sore isn't covered by the condom, donovanosis can still be passed on.
- Don't have sex when there are sores on the sex parts.
- Stay with one partner.
- Have regular men's and women's health checks.